# How to Become a Maine Registered Radon Service Provider

Per the Maine Radon Registration Act (MRSA section 771 et. seq.) regardless of any other professional or environmental credentials you may have, if you or your company plans to provide ANY radon services (sampling, analysis, mitigating, advising) in this state or for the residents of this state, you must also be registered with the Radon / Indoor Air Quality Section of the State's Radiation Control Program (DHS - Division of Health Engineering) Generally, there are only 2 exceptions to this law:

- 1) Homeowner / resident testing or mitigating, however, If residence is for sale, this exception is not applicable.
- 2) Post-mitigation (system verification) testing by homeowner / resident.

There are 4 steps to fulfilling the requirements for becoming a Maine "registered radon service provider" and maintaining your registration, and they are outlined below.

- 1) Training with a state approved radon educational institution
- 2) Pass Exam (NEHA or NRSB)
- 3) Register with the State's Radon / Indoor Air Quality Section
- 4) Maintain Registration and Renew Registration Yearly



## Radon Measurement

Measurement (sampling) for radon in air or in water: Initial training is required to collect radon in air or radon in water samples for analysis by a state registered

laboratory. These are **TWO SEPARATE COURSES**. Many training options are available, including one state approved "distance learning" course. See the list of training institutions below. If you wish to take radon instruction from an institution not listed, please contact our office (1-800-232-0842 / 207-287-5698).

### **Radon Mitigation**:



<u>Air Mitigation</u>: Typically three days of classroom "hands on" mitigation training may be taken in conjunction with the measurement class or as a stand-alone module. Among classroom information: intro to radon physics and chemistry (very basic), health effects of radon exposure, design of various radon mitigation

systems, and the taking and discussing of practice exams. Hands on portion will involve the pre-work diagnostics and installation of an actual sub-slab depressurizations mitigation system in a nearby residential structure.



<u>Water Mitigation</u>: In addition to proper techniques for collecting radon in water samples, this course is also designed to give the student background information on the origin of and transfer mechanisms that effect radon levels in residential water supplies and subsequent radon air

levels in the home. After taking this class, those who are teaming with, or who are themselves a licensed plumber can both collect radon in water samples, and install radon water mitigation systems.

## **State of Maine Approved Radon Instruction**

The Maine Radon / Indoor Air Quality Section has adopted the policy that it will accept all NRSB and NEHA approved radon courses for both initial training and continuing education. This will greatly expand the existing opportunities for obtaining radon instruction for all radon service providers. Please remember, however, that the Maine Radon Registration Act and the Air and Water Radon Service Provider's Registration Rules, and all other Maine specific regulations and policies supercede any conflicting information that may be dispensed in these national training modules. It is the Maine Radon Service Providers responsibility to ensure that he or she is aware of all Maine radon requirements, some of which vary from the EPA protocols or those from other states.

# **NEHA Approved Radon Instruction Pages:**

http://www.radongas.org/Entry\_courses.html

http://www.radongas.org/Continuing Ed Courses 1.html

### **NRSB Approved Radon Instruction Page:**

http://www.nrsb.org/nrsb-edu.htm



# Step 2: Radon Measurement or Mitigation Contractor Exam:

The state recognizes both the National Environmental Health Association's Radon Measurement and Radon Mitigation exams, and the National Radon Safety Board's Radon Measurement Specialist examinations. Generally,

the exams are given the morning following the last day of your training, and cost between \$100 and \$125. If you decide to take a "distance learning course", you have the options of arranging for the Radon / Indoor Air Quality Section to proctor the exam at it's Augusta office, or you can designate a community or school official to do so closer to your home.



# Step 3: State Registration:

Call the Radon / Indoor Air Quality Section of the State of Maine's Radiation Control Program, (1-800-232-0842 or to request a "registration package". In addition to a registration form for your company and it's employees, this package contains various important memorandums that supplement the state specific rules and regulations

found in the "Radon Registration Act", and associated rules. For those intending to register to provide radon measurement services, it will also contain an outline on which to base your "Quality Assurance Plan" for radon sample collection. This document is vital and required to ensure that you take all the steps on your end of the radon testing process that are necessary to produce accurate and precise radon results. You can register prior to the development of this document, but if it is not received by our office within 90 days of your registration, you will "de-listed" until such time that it has been completed. Our office is prepared to answer any of your questions regarding the required elements of your company QAP.

#### Registration fees are as follows:

#### **CATEGORY I.**

#### RADON TESTERS AND EVALUATORS:

Company Fee : \$150.00 per year

Principle of Company: No Fee

On-site Worker : \$150.00 per year "Supervised Worker": \$75.00 per year

#### **CATEGORY II**

#### RADON MITIGATION CONTRACTORS:

Company Fee : \$75.00 per year

Principle of Company : No Fee

On-site Worker : \$75.00 per year "Supervised Worker : \$50.00 per year

# Step 4: Maintain Registration Status and Renew Registration Yearly

To maintain your status as a "Registered Radon Service Provider", you must:

- have submitted an acceptable "Quality Assurance Plan". Guidance from our office is available.
- renew your registration on a yearly basis (registration year is from October 1
  September 30<sup>th</sup>)
- have submitted **all monthly reports** (regardless of testing activity) for the previous registration year (*reports are due on a monthly*

#### basis, NOT at year's end

- complete 16 credits every two years if you are a tester or mitigation contractor, or 24 credits if you are registered as both a tester and a mitigation contractor. See our page on Continuing Education (link below) for more information on this topic.

http://www.state.me.us/dhs/eng/rad/RN Service providers ceu.htm



Please call or email our office if you have any other questions. We would be happy to assist you in becoming a Maine Registered Radon Service Provider!

<u>steven.sprengel@maine.gov</u> 1-800-232-0842 (in Maine) 207-287-5698 (out of state)